

EARL BLUMENAUER  
THIRD DISTRICT, OREGON  
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS



WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
1111 LONGWORTH BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4811

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
911 NE 11TH AVE  
SUITE 200  
PORTLAND, OR 97232  
(503) 231-2300

website: blumenauer.house.gov

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chair  
Committee on Appropriations,  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations,  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for National Center of Excellence for Paid Professional Mentoring in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Friends of the Children located at 44 NE Morris St. Portland, Oregon, 97212.

The funding would be used for Friends of the Children's construction and renovation costs to establish a National Center of Excellence for Paid Professional Mentoring. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the National Center of Excellence will be the hub of training and technical assistance for paid, professional mentors across the 32+ locations that comprise the Friends of the Children network, including those that directly serve hundreds of minority, low income, and rural Oregon children and families. Access to professional mentors reduces poverty and system involvement for children and families, ultimately benefitting taxpayers. Friends of the Children's program has a \$7 to \$1 return on investment for youth impact, and a larger return when impact for an entire family is considered.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Earl Blumenauer".

Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress